

REGULAR MEETING OF THE JASPER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
March 2, 2015

The Jasper County Board of Commissioners met this date at 8:15 A.M. in the Commissioners' Room, Suite 202, of the Jasper County Courthouse located at 115 West Washington Street, Rensselaer, Indiana, with the following members present: Kendell Culp, Richard E. Maxwell and James A. Walstra. Also present was Auditor, Kimberly K. Grow; Deputy Auditor, Donna J. Horner; Highway Engineer/Supervisor, Jack R. Haberlin and the Attorney who represents the Commissioners, Eric Beaver. The meeting was called to order and those present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance led by Brad Cozza, Jasper County Airport Manager.

CLAIMS: Mr. Walstra made the motion to approve the claims as presented. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

PAYROLL CLAIM & ALLOWANCE DOCKETS: Mr. Maxwell made the motion to approve the Payroll Claim & Allowance Dockets for the check dates equal to February 13, 2015 and February 27, 2015. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

MINUTES: Mr. Walstra made the motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on February 9, 2015. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

BURIED CABLE PERMITS: Mr. Walstra made the motion to approve the following buried cable permit submitted by Sprint. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

SPRINT:

ACT #90221

Purpose: To provide telephone service in Walker Township.
There is no tile in the area. (Permit No. 693)

2014 TOURISM REPORT: Kevin Kelly, Jasper County Economic Development Director, distributed and reviewed the 2014 Jasper County Tourism Report. The Commissioners appoint 4 out of the 5 Jasper County Tourism Commission members. The 2014 Innkeeper's Tax Revenue was \$137,457.26. Also present was Katie Holderby, South Shore Convention and Visitors Authority, to present and review the 2014 Partnership Recap.

PUBLIC HEARING / PETITION TO VACATE IN UNION TOWNSHIP: A public hearing was held to address a petition to vacate three (3) public right-of-ways located within Union Township as submitted by Aluara Fiene on behalf of William Fiene. Ms. Fiene stated that she understands that Mr. Charlie Fields may have some concern today about the passage of Mr. Paul Schaffer and his farmland. Mr. Schaffer has been given full written notice and permission to cross our land in any event that should be necessary for him to farm Mr. Field's land. At this time, the floor was opened for public comment. Charlie and Patsy Fields, adjacent landowners, submitted letters from Paul Schafer, Pastor Randall B. Gann and one on behalf of themselves. Margaret Ellis, adjacent landowner, stated that she has no objection to the road located on the southern portion of her property being vacated with the stipulation that a fence be placed between her property and the Fiene property. Ms. Fiene replied, "That can be accomplished". Robin Worthington, adjacent landowner, stated that she has no objection. No one was present on behalf of the Stewart property. Ms. Fiene stated that she has spoken with Mr. Stewart and he stated that he had no problem with gaining more land. He was sent a notice of the public hearing. Mr. Maxwell stated that he would like a letter or statement from Mr. Stewart before making any decisions. The hearing will be continued until the April 6th meeting at 8:30 A.M.

CORONER / GENERATOR REQUEST: Andy Boersma, Coroner, reported that there have been 19 corner's cases so far this year. As previously discussed, Mr. Boersma stated that we are looking in excess of \$30,000.00 for generators for the two buildings. The generator is needed for the two sides because the water to the annex and the morgue comes from the Fase Center side. The Council is somewhat aware of the cost. Mr. Boersma stated that he has also spoken to the Council in regards to the purchase of AEDs for the Fase Center and the Remington Community Center. A request has been submitted to REMC for possible funding. The AEDs cost approximately \$1,500.00 - \$1,600.00 each.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE JASPER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
March 2, 2015

JASPER COUNTY AIRPORT / DEED RESOLUTION: Attorney Beaver explained that, under the terms of the agreement, the Airport Authority wants to have a warranty deed that warrants title by Jasper County as the grantor. The Airport Authority has agreed to pick up any costs associated with the warranty deed. Once the agreement is signed and both entities then pass a resolution, we can move forward with executing the warranty deed. Attorney Beaver gave an explanation of each of the items within the agreement and explained that the resolution itself is pretty much identical to the terms of the agreement. Mr. Walstra made the motion to approve the Agreement to Convey Real Property and Resolution 03-2015 conveying the 132.21 acres of real estate to the Jasper County Airport Authority. Mr. Culp seconded and the motion carried. Let the record show that Mr. Maxwell did abstain.

FARM LEASES: In regards to the farm lease, Mr. Culp asked if we had to amend our contract now that there is a different ownership change? Attorney Beaver replied that, in regards to the airport farm lease, the entire property within the lease has been conveyed to the Airport Authority. What we would do is to simply continue to collect the revenues on that; however, this is the lease that the tenant chose to not renew. Attorney Beaver stated that we may need to give notice to the tenant that a portion of the county farm lease has been conveyed to the Airport Authority who in turn will be subject to the terms of the lease as the landlord. Any future leases will have a new legal description. Attorney Beaver stated that if the Airport Authority imposes any restrictions, the tenant will be compensated.

EXTENSION OFFICE / CLOSED FOR TRAINING: Bryan Overstreet, Extension Educator, reported that the Extension office will be closed on March 13 while the employees attend required training.

COUNTY OFFICER TRAINING: Mr. Overstreet also reported that Purdue Extension will be offering a county officer training session in regards to "Conducting Effective Meetings" at 6:30 P.M. on Monday, March 30 at the Jasper County Fairgrounds. Mr. Maxwell made the motion to approve the county officer training. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

EQUITABLE SHARING AGREEMENT AND CERTIFICATION: The Equitable Sharing Report for 2014 was distributed. Sheriff Risner reported that we ended 2014 with just a little over \$436,000.00.

COMMUNICATIONS TOWER: Sheriff Risner also reported that they had a joint meeting in January with the Integrated Public Safety Council and RA-COMM. The communications tower has been extended to 299 feet. Once the weather cooperates, improvements will be made to the concrete pad. Some of the equitable sharing funds may be used for ground equipment usage.

REQUEST TO REFILL POSITION / SHERIFF: Sheriff Risner stated that they had to dismiss one of their assistant matrons/cook. This is a full-time position that works seven days per week year-round. Permission was requested to replace this position once monetary funds are available. Mr. Walstra made the motion to approve the replacement of the full-time position. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

INSURANCE / VOLUNTEERS: Sheriff Risner stated that we have ten (10) reserve officers. These officers do not receive any payment for the work they do. If they are injured while they are on active duty with us, they have workman's comp for medical and liability coverage; however, they do not have any coverage that would provide compensation if they cannot return to their full-time profession. Coverage can be provided through Consolidated Insurance for \$130.00 per year that would provide them with funding for up to five years. Sheriff Risner stated that he can pay the additional cost from the commissary fund. Mr. Maxwell made the motion to approve the additional coverage. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

CORONER / GENERATOR REQUEST CON'T: Sheriff Risner stated that he may be able to use some of the Equitable Sharing Funds to aid with the cost of the generator on the Annex side due to the fact that we conduct narcotic investigations at the facility.

At this time, there was a short break.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE JASPER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
March 2, 2015

AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING SERVICES / MAXIMUS: Mr. Maxwell made the motion to approve the Agreement to Provide Professional Consulting Services with Maximus. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

ANIMAL CONTROL / UPDATED POSITION DESCRIPTIONS: Mr. Maxwell made the motion to approve the three (3) updated position descriptions for Animal Control. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

APPOINTMENT / DEMOTTE PLANNING COMMISSION & BZA: Mr. Walstra made the motion to appoint Rick Herma to the DeMotte Planning Commission and BZA board to fulfill the remaining term of Dr. Raymond Ooms. Mr. Herma's term will expire on December 31, 2015. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

MOWING QUOTES / JAIL FACILITY, SUREVEYOR'S ANNEX & NORTH ANNEX: The following quotes were received to provide mowing services for the year 2015:

<u>Surveyor's Annex:</u>	Colleen Culp	\$ 40.00 per mow
	Tim Brown Construction & Lawn Care	\$ 40.00 per mow
<u>North Annex:</u>	Tim Brown Construction & Lawn Care	\$150.00 per mow
<u>Jail Facility:</u>	Jim's Lawn Care / Jim Woodke	\$135.00 per mow

Mr. Walstra made the motion to approve the quote submitted by Jim Woodke, Jim's Lawn Care, for the Jail Facility in the amount of \$135.00 per mow. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Maxwell made the motion to approve the quote submitted by Colleen Culp for the Surveyor's Annex in the amount of \$40.00 per mow. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

No decision was made on the North Annex at this time. Sharon Colee, Director / Community Services, will be contacted regarding the current vendor.

STOCKMAN FURNITURE SERVICE / QUOTE: Per request, the following quote for work to be done in Superior Court was submitted by Dean Stockman, Stockman Furniture Service:

Complete, strip, and refinish eight (8) pews. Price includes replacing numerous damaged areas where the veneer is missing. Pews are to be removed and reinstalled upon completion.		
Cost: \$950.00 each		\$ 7,600.00
Complete, strip, and refinish two (2) large pews in the rear of the Courtroom.		
Cost: \$1,275.00 each		\$ 2,544.00
TOTAL COST:		\$10,144.00

The decision was made to hold off on proceeding until a determination can be made as to how much money is available within the budget.

JASPER COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION / CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS: Per request, the following capital improvement projects for 2015 were submitted by the Jasper County Fair Association:

<u>Grounds</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Horse & Pony	Outdoor arena repair	\$ 550.00
Beef Barn	New tan bark	\$ 2,000.00
Swine Barn	New head gates (Annex)	\$14,400.00
Blacktop	Front drive and front parking lot	\$30,000.00
Farm Bureau Bldg	Roof vent fans	\$ 1,000.00
Farm Bureau Bldg	Under roof insulation	\$12,500.00

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March 2, 2015

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS / SPRING CONFERENCE: William Wakeland, Director / Community Corrections, informed the Commissioners per letter that Melinda Scheffer, Work Release Supervisor; Regina Coulter, Electronic Monitoring Supervisor; Justin Baggerly, Correctional Officer; and Wanda Schultz, Correctional Officer, will be attending the IACCAC Spring Conference in French Lick on April 22 – 24. The training is on Evidence Based Practice and the Development of Learning Teams. The cost of the training, hotel rooms and meals will be paid for out of Project Income. Mr. Maxwell made the motion to approve. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

RECORDER / FIDLAR SEMINAR: Beth Warren, Recorder, has requested permission for herself and Karen Wenrick, Deputy, to attend the Fidlar Technologies Educational Seminar for Recorders on May 11-13 in Rock Island, Illinois. Transportation from Merrillville to Rock Island will be provided. All expenses will be paid for from the Elected Official Training Fund. Meals are provided by Fidlar. Mr. Walstra made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

INVOICE / MOWER: Mr. Maxwell submitted an invoice for the new mower that was purchased for the Courthouse. The total cost was \$12,864.00.

EASEMENT / CITY OF RENSSELAER: Attorney Beaver stated that the City of Rensselaer presented an easement at the last Commissioners' meeting. Approval was given pending attorney review. Attorney Beaver reviewed some minor changes that were made and the Commissioners signed the document.

REMITTANCE PROCESSING SERVICES / AGREEMENT: Carla Anderson, Treasurer, stated that this agreement is for the lockbox and does reflect a price increase. This is the first price increase in 6 years and will amount to approximately \$850.00 per year. Mr. Culp asked Ms. Anderson if she knows what percentages of the payments are sent to the lockbox versus sent directly to the Treasurer versus walk-ins? Ms. Anderson replied that she does not have an idea; however, she will try to get a percentage break-down this year. Attorney Beaver has reviewed the agreement. Mr. Walstra made the motion to approve the agreement with Remittance Processing Services. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

ALLISON PAYMENT SYSTEMS / AGREEMENT: Allison Payment Systems handles the printing and mailing of the tax statements. Attorney Beaver has reviewed the agreement. Mr. Walstra made the motion to approve the agreement with Allison Payment Systems. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

JASPER COUNTY AIRPORT / DEED RESOLUTION CON'T: Attorney Beaver stated that an amendment will be made to Exhibit A to incorporate Mike Kingman's survey. The survey will also be included in the Resolution. Mr. Walstra made the motion to approve the amendment. Mr. Culp seconded and the motion carried. Let the record show that Mr. Maxwell did abstain.

CONCERNED CITIZEN / MATHIS: Tom Mathis, concerned citizen, was present to express his concern with Jasper County Government particularly the process and procedures of Planning & Development, the BZA, and the Commissioners regarding findings of fact. Mr. Mathis stated that he filed an administrative appeal with Mary Scheurich, Director of Planning & Development, regarding determination and interpretation of the zoning code. Attorney Beaver advised the Commissioners that he does not feel that it would be appropriate to comment due to the pending administrative appeal.

ANIMAL SHELTER / PAINTING: Auditor Grow stated that Kristen Bahleda, Director / Animal Control, has inquired as to who they should contact in regards to having some painting done within the shelter. Mr. Culp will speak with Bud Justice and Harry Carney, Maintenance, to see if they would be interested.

There being no further business, Mr. Walstra made the motion to continue the meeting until Monday, March 16, 2015 on an as needed basis only. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

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March 2, 2015

JASPER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

Kendell Culp, President

James A. Walstra, Vice President

Richard E. Maxwell, Member

ATTEST:

Kimberly K. Grow, Auditor of Jasper County

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